

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SALT T 05410 121255Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00 /026 W

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O R 121225Z OCT 73

FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2131

INFO DOD

S E C R E T USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA 5410

EXDIS/SALT

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

EO 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON MEETING MARCH 12 (SALT TWO - 307)

1. AT TODAY'S MEETING, SEMENOV MADE A BROAD GENERALIZED STATEMENT IN DEFENSE OF THEIR DRAFT AGREEMENT. IT CONTAINED NO NEW SUBSTANCE. HIS BEST COUNTER TO OUR PREVIOUS ATTACKS ON THEIR FBS POSITION'S EFFECT ON OUR ALLIES WAS IN EFFECT THAT THEIR DRAFT AGREEMENT WOULD BE GOOD FOR PEACE AND WHAT WAS GOOD FOR PEACE WOULD BE GOOD FOR OUR ALLIES. I HAD, PRIOR TO OUR MEETING, INFORMED HIM THAT I DID NOT INTEND TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT. AT THE CLOSE OF HIS STATEMENT, I CONFINED MYSELF TO STATING THAT I HAD LISTENED TO WHAT HE HAD TO SAY AND IT WOULD BE INCLUDED IN OUR CONSIDERATION OF THEIR DRAFT AGREEMENT.

2. IN OUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION, I TOLD SEMENOV THAT I WOULD NOT AT OUR NEXT MEETING EXPECT TO COMMENT ON THEIR DRAFT BUT WOULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER OBSERVATIONS HE WOULD CARE TO MAKE, PARTICULARLY ON THOSE PORTIONS WHERE HE KNEW U.S. AND SOVIET POSITIONS DIFFERED. HE REPEATED THE LINE THAT HE HAD TAKEN IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT WE SHOULD MOVE "ALONG A BROAD FRONT" IN CONSIDERING THE SOVIET DRAFT, AGREEING ON THOSE THINGS ON WHICH WE COULD AGREE AND STEP BY STEP NARROWING THE AREA OF DIFFERENCES.

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PAGE 02 SALT T 05410 121255Z

3. IN RESPONSE TO NITZE'S QUESTION TO SHCHUKIN IN PRIVATE

CONVERSATION, LATTER CONFIRMED THAT EFFECT OF PARA 1 OF
ARTICLE III AND ARTICLE IV OF SOVIET DRAFT WOULD BE TO LIMIT
U.S. TO 656 SLBMS AND 1054 ICBMS AND PERMIT SOVIETS 950 SLBMS.
WHETHER THERE WOULD BE ANY REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF ICBMS SOVIETS
HAD ON DATE OF SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT "WOULD BE SUBJECT TO
DISCUSSION."

4. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GROUNDWORK I LAID TODAY, I DO NOT
PLAN AT OCTOBER 16 MEETING TO MAKE ANY FORMAL STATEMENT.JOHNSON

SECRET

NNN

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